

**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 3-9, 11, 12 and 15-18 are currently being prosecuted. Claims 3, 15 and 16 are amended. Claims 3, 7, and 15 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the Amendments and Remarks as set forth hereinbelow.

**ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 7-9, 11, and 12 as being allowed. With regard to claims 3-6, and 15-18, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider her rejection in view of the remarks as set forth below.

**DRAWINGS**

The Examiner has not approved the Formal Drawings submitted by the Applicants. It is respectfully submitted that the drawings comply with the requirements of the USPTO. If the Examiner has any objections to the Formal Drawings he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned as soon as possible so that appropriate action may be taken. No further action is believed to be necessary at this time unless the undersigned receives a notice from the Examiner.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 112, first paragraph**

Claims 3-6 and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections, but merely to advance the prosecution of the present application, independent 3 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a air pressure detecting device, including a hollow member extending between a hub and a rim of the wheel portion, one end of the hollow member being operatively connected to said air valve via a hose; and

a detecting and transmitting unit for detecting an air pressure in the tire and transmitting pressure information out of the detecting and transmitting unit, said detecting and transmitting unit being connected to a second end of the hollow member, said detecting and transmitting unit being operatively attached to the hub of a wheel portion,

wherein said hollow member is used as at least one spoke of said wheel portion.

Support the novel combination of elements set forth in claim 3 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0053] and seen in FIG. 6.

In addition, independent 15 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements directed to a air pressure detecting device, including

a hollow member extending between a hub and a rim of a wheel portion, said hollow member being used as at least one spoke of said wheel portion; and

a detecting and transmitting unit for detecting an air pressure in the tire and transmitting pressure information out of the detecting and transmitting unit while a vehicle is being operated, said detecting and transmitting unit being operatively attached to the hub of a wheel portion; and

a harness connecting an air sensor to the detecting and transmitting unit, the harness passing through at least a part of a length of the hollow member in order to improve an appearance of said wheel portion.

Support the novel combination of elements set forth in claim 15 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0061] and seen in FIG. 9.

Thus, the Examiner's rejection based on 35 USC § 112, first paragraph has been obviated.

All claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination.

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but to merely show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

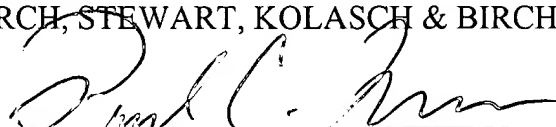
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen, Registration No. 50, 786, at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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